

Together



Sunday 28 July 2024

Minister

Rev. Greg McConnell
0404 046 697

Administration Assistant

Katy Burfield
4945 4655 - office
Tues 9am - 5.30pm
Fri 9am - 5.30pm

Website

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We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon this land

Worship services

Sunday 28 July	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell
Sunday 4 August	8.00am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	9.45am	Rev Greg McConnell HC
	5.30pm	Rev Greg McConnell

Narla Hostel services are held each Friday at 3.45pm

Dinner Church—every Sunday at 5.30pm

Dinner Church is a casual service for all ages with a message, a catered meal, prayer, discussion and more. This week Rev Greg McConnell will be giving the message. There will be sharing and Peter and Meredith will be catering.

Lectionary readings for the coming week

2 Sm 11:26-12:13a	Ps 51:1-12
Eph 4:1-16	Jn 6:24-35

Onsite internet: St Luke's Guest - no password required



Welcome to St Luke's Uniting Church, Belmont



A place for everyone

A church where you are welcome regardless of who you are, where you are from, and whom you love

Pray for those known to you who are in hospital,
not well or recuperating

Bank transfer option for your weekly offerings

If you would like to transfer your offerings into the St Luke's Uniting Church giving account the details follow.

All transfers are anonymous.

BSB: 634 634

Account No. 100028307

Account name: St Luke's Uniting-Giving Acc

Thank you for supporting the St Luke's Uniting Church!



Calendar

Monday 29 July

Activity Centre meet from 9.30am
for The Activity Centre Olympics!

Tuesday 30 July

Quirky Quilters meet from 10am

Thursday 1 August

Thursday Bible Study meet from 1.30pm

Friday 2 August

Friday Plus Bible Study meet from 9.30am

Playgroup meet from 10am

Just Kids Term 3 dates

July 28

Aug 11 & 25

Sept 8 & 22



Presbytery Prayer Diary

The Hunter Presbytery has produced a Prayer Diary which includes prayer points for every congregation in the Hunter Presbytery over the next few months. Each Sunday every congregation will be praying for one of our other congregations. By praying together we can encourage one another in mission as we grow in faith and unity and develop understanding and relationships across our region.

This week's Presbytery Prayer Point is Merriwa Uniting Church

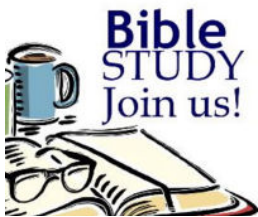
Merriwa is a rural centre with an active community of faith.

Prayer: As a congregation we are praying for outreach into our community, the continuation of scripture in schools, and Godly, bible-based preaching in our services. Amen.

1 **Friday Plus Bible Study**

Friday Plus Bible study group will meet on 2nd August. The events unfolding in the early church are both exciting and challenging. In our study this week on Acts chapter 9 we look at how different people played their part in spreading the good news. Please join us as we meet in the Gathering Area at 9.30 for tea/coffee

before a 10 am start. We plan to finish by 11.30. Enquiries to Julie Killeen 04277 505 874 or Jan Kellahan 0424 139 100, or just turn up on the day.



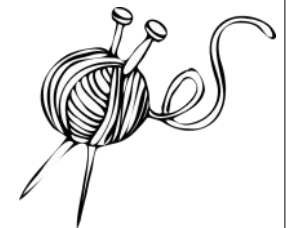
2 **Soup and Slice Sundays**



Next Sunday 4th August is the first of our Soup and Slice Sundays for this year. A variety of Soups and Slices will be on sale for \$5 each or if a slice box has extra pieces on a second layer it will be \$7.50. Please write your name on the list if you are able to cook some soup or slices. Containers are available. Thank you to all the cooks who make this possible

3 **The Crochet Basket is back!**

If you are a person who can crochet kitchen towels then we would appreciate your help! We have kitchen towels ready for the crochet work to be done, available for you to take in a basket in the gathering area, crochet cotton is supplied. When completed, please return to the basket. These will be sold on our Homecraft stall at the Family Fun Day and Markets Under the Trees on 7th September.



4 **Thank you!**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Pantry Appeal for Margaret Jurd College over the last two Sundays. Many pantry items plus \$220 in cash was given. A very generous response. Thank you to all!

5 **Assembly News**



**Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY**

Rev Charissa Suli was

inducted as President of the Uniting Church at the opening session of the recent Assembly. Charissa will serve for the next three years. The theme of this Assembly was “Threads of Love”. Rev Dr Paul Dongwon Goh was elected as the President elect and will serve from 2027 – 2030. The National Adult Fellowship Committee which has now ceased to operate was thanked and recognised for its strong leadership of Adult Fellowship groups across all states of Australia for the past 42 years. Eldrene March was a member of this National Committee. She will continue to serve on the State Committee.

6 **Our Sympathy and our Prayers**

Our loving sympathy and our prayers are with the family of Winsome Treloar. Winsome passed away on Friday 19th July. Winsome was a very active member of St Luke’s for many years while living in Narla Court before moving to Narla Hostel. She was a member of St Luke’s 8am choir and member of the Narla Singers. Winsome was also a member of the Adult Fellowship and was an active member of the Carnival Trash and Treasure stall team for many years. During her time at Narla Hostel she always attended the Hostel Worship Service each week. A private cremation has been held.

7 **BBQ/Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings Bennetts Green**

A St Luke’s Fundraiser: next Saturday 3rd August 9am - 4pm

A huge thank you to the 12 people who have added their names to the roster to help. It will be a fun, social time serving our community on the day.

We need just 2 more people to do a 4-hour shift from 12:30 – 4:30 in the following roles:

- * **Order Taker** - using a printed slip, correctly write down details of customer order and issue a ticket
- * **Server** -fill customer orders - make a sausage sandwich, find correct drink and give to customers



8 **Invitation**

The Hunter Community Alliance, of which the Uniting Church – Hunter Presbytery is a member, are hosting a meeting at St Luke’s on Tuesday 30th July at 10am with Hon. Yasmin Catley. Key representatives of Climate and Transition and Housing, as well as members of the Hunter Community Alliance will be present. An invitation has been issued to any members of St Luke’s who are interested to hear about these community issues to come along.

9 **Family Fun Day & Markets in The Trees** **A St Luke's Fundraiser: Saturday 7th September 9-2pm**

UPDATE...

Planning is well under way for our Family Fun Day & Markets in The Trees. **The Family Fun Day** will have a few church stalls in and around the Community Centre including homecrafts, home cooking, a BBQ and a Kids Zone. It will also have toy stall that the pre-school is assisting with.

The following people have accepted the convenor roles: Home Cooking (Jean Thirkettle), Homecrafts (Eldrene March) and Kids Zone (Meredith Hudson).

We are still looking for a convenor for the BBQ - this would involve purchasing the bread, sausages, onions and sausages for the day and ensuring the stall runs smoothly.

A list with food quantities and where to buy them is available to help you. Please speak with Alison or Jenny if you are keen to do this role or have questions.

The Marching Koalas have been booked for 11am on the day and the half hour performance and at the end, it will include a song marching through the carpark for kids to follow behind with teddies. This will conclude with a 'teddy' themed kids' activity run by Meredith.

*Guide Dogs Australia will be visiting on the day for people to meet and learn about.

* The Community Garden have some great ideas on what they will provide for kids on the day and will include life size vegetable characters making an appearance.

The Markets in The Trees component of the day is 29 stalls, each one being - 3 x 3m in size and set-up/held on the large grassy area adjacent to Narla. Church or community members can book a stall at a cost of \$50 (each) set up on the day and sell new or 2nd-hand

items. Bookings for the stalls are open as of 10am this Sunday (27/7) and close on Sunday 1/8 (or when sold out).

More details on the flyer.

TODAY/SUNDAY...

- Sign-up sheets are available on the fundraising table for you to add your name if you can help on a church-run stall or on set-up. Thank you to the 16 people (and the Pre-school for already committing to help on the day).
There are 2 columns for each stall – all day or specific hours.
- Printed flyers for the big day are available to hand out to friends, family, groups you attend etc
- Posters are available to take and place on noticeboards, shop windows, libraries, community centres.
- Similar flyers but with more focus on the markets are available to take – these are to be used to give to people who may be interested in booking a market stall via online booking site.
- If you crotchet, there is a basket of items and cottons for you take, add to and return, so they can be sold on the homecrafts stall. If you have other ideas or items to contribute, please contact Eldrene.

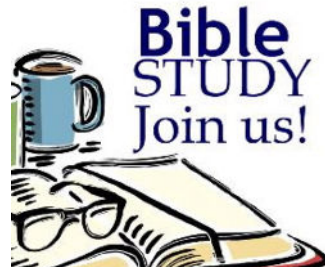
This week...

Marketing for the big day continues - we will be contacting radio stations, magazines, papers, childcare centres etc to get the word out. Closer to the day we will be heavily using social media platforms and let you know how you can help (it is easier than you think!)

If you have any questions regarding this day, please email Alison Gill: a.gill@optusnet.com.au or phone her: 0435653531.

10 Thursday Bible Study

Over the next few weeks we will be looking at John's Gospel and the three letters of John to discover more of Revelations mysteries and to see if there are links within John's writings. You are welcome to join us. We meet on Thursdays at 1.30pm in the Gathering Area.



2 Samuel 11:1-15 NIV

David and Bathsheba

In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.

David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?"

Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

John 6:1-21 NIV

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there).

Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.

When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

Jesus Walks on the Water

When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, where they got into a boat and set off across the lake for Capernaum. By now it was dark, and Jesus had not yet joined them. A strong wind was blowing and the waters grew rough. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water; and they were frightened. But he said to them, "It is I; don't be afraid." Then they were willing to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the shore where they were heading.